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Barker

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(54) **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MAKING AND USING A LEAD INTRODUCER FOR AN IMPLANTABLE ELECTRICAL STIMULATION SYSTEM**

USPC 606/129; 604/164.01, 164.05; 607/117
See application file for complete search history.

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A lead introducer includes a multi-piece insertion needle insertable into a splitable member. The multi-piece insertion needle includes an outer insertion needle that defines an open channel that extends along substantially entirely a length of the outer insertion needle and an inner insertion needle configured and arranged for insertion into the open channel of the outer insertion needle. The splitable member includes at least two pull-apart tabs and at least one weakened region extending along at least a portion of a length of the splitable member from between the at least two pull-apart tabs. The at least one weakened region is configured and arranged for separating when the at least two pull-apart tabs are pulled apart.

20 Claims, 12 Drawing Sheets

